PROGRAMS FOR GROUPS

These programs are appropriate for any scout group, school trip or organized group. Programs for groups can be requested by emailing <u>jlear@mercercounty.org</u>. Group programs run 60 – 90 minutes and are hosted at Mercer County Parks and offsite areas.

Fees for group programs are as follows: \$35 for an offsite program, \$25 for an onsite program.

OUTDOOR GROUP PROGRAMS

These walks include an introduction activity, followed by an interpretive hike.

Ahh, Arthropods!

Six legs, eight legs, fourteen and more! Explore the fields and forest for these small, over-looked organisms that are ever so important. And learn how and why we humans rely on them.

Animal Evidence

Our parks and natural areas are home to a great number of wildlife. But, we rarely see them. On this walk, we'll look for animal tracks, nests and holes, browsed plants and other animal evidence to learn about the animals and their habits.

Hooray for Habitat

You need habitat, I need habitat and animals and plants too. During this walk, learn what habitat is and what it provides while we search different habitats for the plants and animals that use it.

Stream Stomp

Get your feet wet exploring the stream habitat and search for the tiny organisms that hide under rocks and in crevices. Learn who and what each organism is and how they indicate a stream's health. To conclude, we'll participate in an activity that exemplifies the importance of clean streams.

General Nature Walk

General nature walks feature current natural events such as blooming wildflowers, or how organisms prepare for winter. During the hike the group will seek common insects and birds, and animal tracks and signs.

INDOOR GROUP PROGRAMS

Wildlife Guess Who (Pre-K to 1st)

Using different "virtual puzzles" and animal artifacts, students will learn the defining characteristics of animal families, including insect, amphibian, fish, reptile, bird and mammal.

Food Webs $(3^{rd} \text{ to } 5^{th})$

Food is essential for existence. You and I gather our food from a grocery store, but how do different organisms feed themselves? During this program, children will learn to make a food web and will gain a deeper understanding of the interdependence between organisms.

Animal Evidence (2nd – 5th)

A presentation and hands-on activities will engage students as they learn to infer the activities of wildlife. "Evidence" items include animal tracks, skulls and skins, and animal scat! Younger students will create a track stamp story.